

## Sandhills Middle School

582 Meadowfield Road  
Gaston, SC 29053

<b>Grades</b>	7-8 Middle School	
<b>Enrollment</b>	510 Students	
<b>Principal</b>	Justin Nutter	803-926-1890
<b>Superintendent</b>	Linda G. Lavender	803-568-1000
<b>Board Chair</b>	Daniel Martin	803-568-5940

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2014 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
<b>2014</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Good</b>
2013	Average	Good
2012	Average	Good
2011	Average	Average
2010	Average	Good

## DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

## SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>  
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

## Percent of Student SC PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

Percent of students tested in 2013-14 whose 2012-13 test scores were located

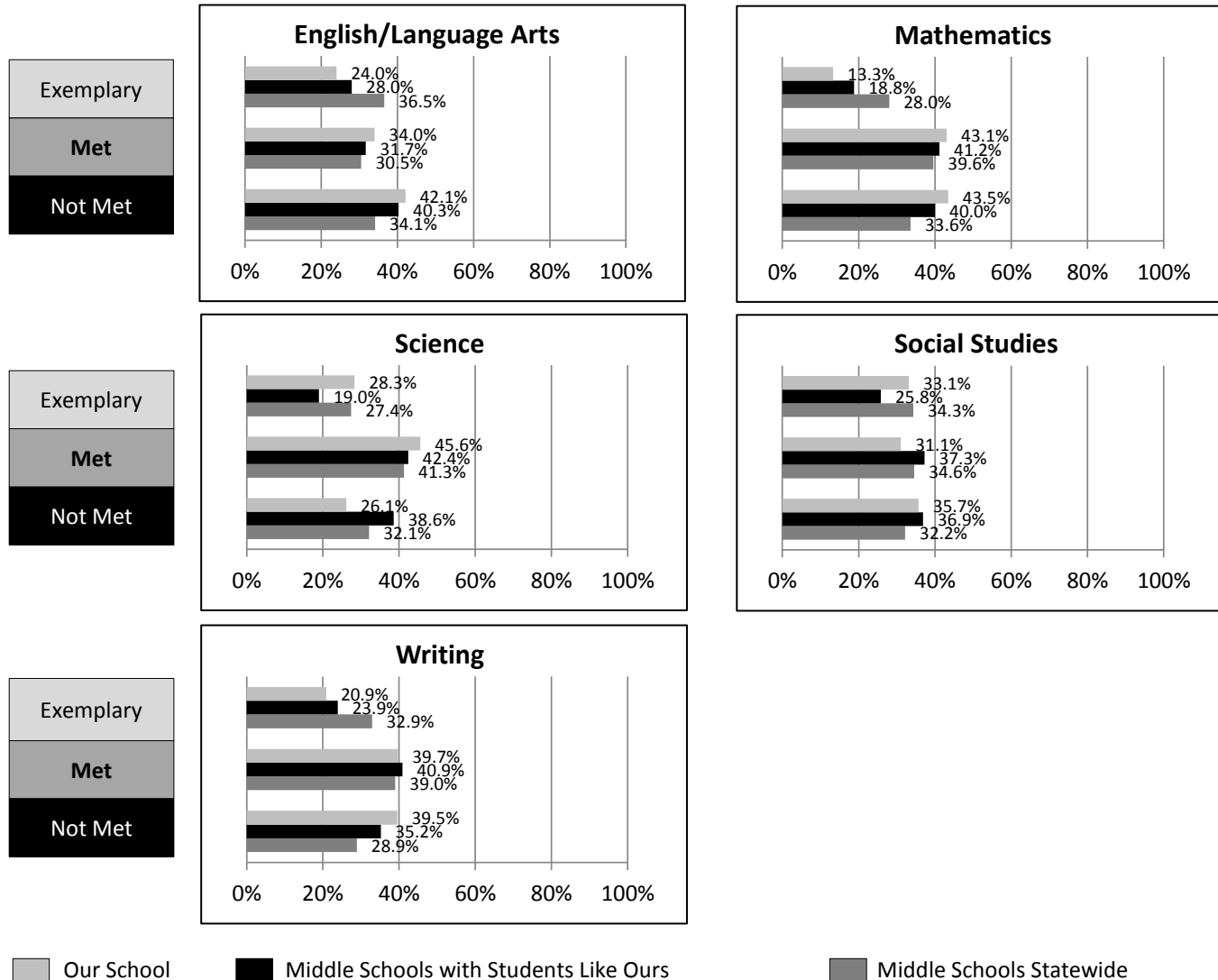
98.4%

## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
0	1	44	11	0

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015.

## South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SC PASS)



\* Middle Schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

## Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

## Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

## School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
<b>Students (n = 510)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	11.2%	Down from 42.2%	21.4%	26.0%
Retention Rate	0.0%	Down from 0.2%	0.8%	0.6%
Attendance Rate	95.3%	No change	96.0%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	13.7%	Down from 15.0%	14.3%	19.4%
With disabilities	16.7%	Up from 16.6%	14.5%	12.8%
Older than usual for grade	2.4%	Down from 2.8%	5.5%	4.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.6%	Down from 1.4%	0.5%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n = 29)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	58.6%	Down from 69.0%	60.5%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	58.6%	Down from 65.5%	72.4%	75.9%
Teachers returning from previous year	74.1%	Down from 77.5%	83.2%	85.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.5%	Up from 95.4%	95.0%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$39,506	Down 4.7%	\$46,976	\$47,081
Professional development days/teacher	11.4 days	Down from 11.9 days	11.4 days	10.6 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	7.0	Up from 6.0	3.5	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	29.9 to 1	Up from 29.4 to 1	20.5 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.7%	Down from 90.1%	89.7%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 99.9%	99.1%	99.0%
Character development program	Good	No change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,542	Down 3.4%	\$7,588	\$7,616
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	51.9%	Down from 56.0%	61.9%	62.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	51.2%	Down from 52.0%	61.5%	61.3%

\* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

## End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	89.3%	97.1%
English 1	N/A	94.8%
Biology 1	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	89.3%	97.0%

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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I/S-Insufficient Sample

## Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Sandhills Middle School continues to be committed to creating a learning environment which ensures student performance at the highest level.

During 2013-14, the SMS professional learning community focused on creating and refining curriculum that is rigorous, engaging, and promotes the development of skills that ensure college and career readiness. Our team utilized The Core Six: Essential Strategies for Achieving Excellence with the Common Core (Silver, Dewing & Perini, 2012) to develop our ability to challenge students with critical literacy engagements across all subjects.

Our instructional team also continued to work on deep execution of high-yield instructional strategies highlighted in FOCUS: Elevating the Essentials to Radically Improve Student Learning (Schmoker, 2011). Action research cycles were utilized to experiment with strategies and assess their impact on student achievement.

We commend our students for their outstanding performances outside the walls of SMS this year! Our SMS Band, Jazz Band and Honor Choir all received superior ratings and nine band members were selected to participate in All-Region Band. Our student athletes had a successful year as both the football team and boys basketball team participated in conference championship games. SMS students were selected to participate in the SC Governor's School for the Arts Summer program and recognized as Junior Scholars.

SMS students continued to develop leadership and voice as early adolescents! Highlights included our Beta Club conducting a book drive for early childhood students and our Chain Links Club proactively addressing the issue of bullying. Our Project Unify team promoted a more inclusive environment through participation in Special Olympics. Student government and our SMS Ambassadors continued to actively lead school-wide assemblies, new student orientations, and extracurricular activities.

Our 2014-15 team seeks to develop and implement a vision for 21st Century curriculum, instruction, and assessment that engages students in authentic, rigorous, and integrated problem-based learning. We will focus on creating performance tasks that promote creativity, critical thinking, problem solving and enduring understanding. We will continue to emphasize the development of leadership and life skills within our students that promote creativity, collaboration, self-direction, and perseverance.

We appreciate the support of all stakeholders as we continue to establish a neighborhood where teachers, students, staff, and community combine resources to provide whatever it takes to ensure every student's success!

Justin Nutter, Principal

Mary Kennedy, Chair School Improvement Council

## Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	27	246	38
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	63.4%	71.1%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	66.6%	72.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	92.6%	81.2%	59.0%

\* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

### Abbreviations for Missing Data

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**ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System**

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

<b>Overall Weighted Points Total</b>	<b>64.1</b>
<b>Overall Grade Conversion</b>	<b>D</b>

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the states' expectations.

**Accountability Indicator (Title I Schools)**

Sandhills Middle School has been designated as a:

	Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
	Title I Reward School for Progress - one of the schools with substantial progress in school subgroups.
	Title I Focus School - one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
	Title I Priority School - one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
	Title I School - does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
X	Non-Title I School - therefore the designations above are not applicable.

**Teacher Quality and Student Attendance**

		Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers		N/A	3.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers		16.4	7.3%
	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.8%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	95.3%	94.0%*	Yes
			State
Professional qualifications of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State (Advanced Degrees)			61.9%
Percentage of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State with emergency or provisional credentials			0.0%

\* Or greater than last year

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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## SC PASS Performance By Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean*	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested
Grades 6-8							
All Students	610.4	611.1	632.8	625.1	100.0	99.8	99.5
Male	602.0	607.3	630.2	625.6	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female	619.2	615.1	635.5	624.7	100.0	99.6	98.9
White	615.4	614.0	637.8	626.6	100.0	99.7	99.2
African American	599.5	603.6	619.4	619.7	100.0	100.0	100.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	592.2	603.3	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	572.4	582.1	584.9	583.6	100.0	100.0	98.4
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	602.0	605.2	621.2	618.0	100.0	99.8	99.3
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0

\* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

## Two Year Elementary and Middle School Grades Trend Data

	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
2013	3	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	4	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	5	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	6	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	7	281	615.2	99.6	281	617.7	99.3
	8	224	607.4	99.1	224	602.7	99.6
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	4	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	5	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	6	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	7	281	638.7	99.6	281	623.1	99.6
	8	109	628.0	99.1	115	628.3	98.3

	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
2014	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	241	607.9	100.0	241	619.3	100.0
	8	274	612.6	100.0	273	604.0	99.6
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	240	639.3	99.6	239	626.4	99.2
	8	137	621.6	99.3	136	623.0	100.0

\* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

NOTE: Results include the SC-ALT test.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

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N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (District)							4/27/2015	3204036
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Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies*/ History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 3 - 5								
All Students	621.7	614.5	603.3	617.6	99.9	99.9	99.2	N/A
Male	615.3	615.1	603.5	618.8	99.7	99.7	98.4	N/A
Female	629.1	613.8	603.1	616.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
White	625.2	618.5	607.1	619.4	100.0	100.0	99.7	N/A
African American	611.5	599.2	591.4	608.8	99.3	99.3	97.0	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	619.2	618.3	602.3	621.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	594.6	588.4	584.8	599.9	100.0	100.0	99.1	N/A
Limited English Proficient	620.1	618.6	603.5	621.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Subsidized Meals	616.5	609.7	598.9	613.7	99.8	99.8	99.0	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 6 - 8								
All Students	610.0	611.6	625.6	626.6	100.0	99.9	99.6	N/A
Male	602.8	609.3	626.3	626.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Female	617.0	613.9	624.9	626.9	100.0	99.7	99.2	N/A
White	614.8	614.4	630.7	627.8	100.0	99.8	99.4	N/A
African American	598.5	602.0	609.7	621.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	593.6	609.8	614.2	N/A	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	578.0	587.4	585.4	590.3	100.0	100.0	98.9	N/A
Limited English Proficient	589.7	606.1	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	603.5	606.7	616.1	620.7	100.0	99.8	99.5	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 9 - 12								
All Students	224.9	212.8	78.6	74.3	98.1	97.6	100.0	77.9
Male	220.8	210.0	76.7	76.2	98.2	98.2	100.0	74.8
Female	229.3	215.7	80.6	72.5	98.0	97.0	100.0	81.7
White	227.2	216.0	80.4	75.6	99.3	99.3	100.0	75.9
African American	219.6	205.2	75.4	70.7	96.4	96.4	100.0	80.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	92.9
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	209.3	196.8	70.2	N/A	100.0	100.0	100.0	36.1
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100.0
Subsidized Meals	221.8	210.4	76.6	73.9	98.1	97.5	100.0	73.5
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

\* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (State)							4/27/2015	3204036
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Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies* / History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
<b>Grades 3 - 5</b>								
All Students	643.8	644.3	626.4	645.0	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Male	638.9	643.9	627.0	646.5	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Female	649.0	644.6	625.8	643.4	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
White	659.5	662.7	644.4	659.5	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
African American	622.3	617.3	601.2	624.1	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	669.9	686.6	655.9	673.4	99.9	100.0	99.8	N/A
Hispanic	631.7	634.6	614.5	636.5	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	642.1	640.4	627.1	641.8	99.7	99.9	99.5	N/A
With Disabilities	599.3	596.5	587.6	609.2	98.9	99.5	99.5	N/A
Limited English Proficient	631.2	638.6	615.0	638.1	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
Subsidized Meals	627.7	625.2	609.4	628.7	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Migrant	608.2	615.1	590.4	623.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 6 - 8</b>								
All Students	627.8	632.2	634.7	637.4	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
Male	620.6	630.1	634.4	639.8	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Female	635.4	634.3	635.0	634.9	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
White	644.3	647.7	652.3	652.3	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
African American	604.3	608.5	608.9	615.2	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	658.5	680.2	673.0	677.3	99.9	99.9	99.9	N/A
Hispanic	617.3	625.4	625.0	630.5	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	629.4	631.2	637.2	638.3	99.9	99.8	99.7	N/A
With Disabilities	574.5	584.3	584.9	592.8	99.4	99.4	99.2	N/A
Limited English Proficient	612.5	625.8	622.5	629.8	99.6	99.7	99.8	N/A
Subsidized Meals	610.0	614.6	616.3	619.9	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Migrant	586.4	606.8	600.8	607.7	98.2	98.2	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 9 - 12</b>								
All Students	229.3	222.6	81.8	74.9	98.7	98.7	100.0	80.0
Male	225.6	222.4	81.8	75.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	75.7
Female	233.2	222.9	81.9	74.0	99.2	99.1	100.0	84.5
White	235.9	230.8	86.1	78.1	99.0	98.9	100.0	82.8
African American	219.6	209.6	75.2	69.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	76.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	240.2	245.8	89.4	80.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	88.0
Hispanic	225.1	219.4	79.5	73.5	98.9	99.0	100.0	76.9
American Indian/Alaskan	228.8	220.3	81.9	77.2	98.9	99.3	100.0	74.3
With Disabilities	204.3	196.5	68.4	66.2	96.6	96.5	100.0	43.2
Limited English Proficient	218.0	214.7	76.6	71.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	73.4
Subsidized Meals	221.1	212.6	76.8	70.8	98.3	98.2	100.0	72.5
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.5
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

\* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

\*Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level.

### Reading - Grade 4 (2013)



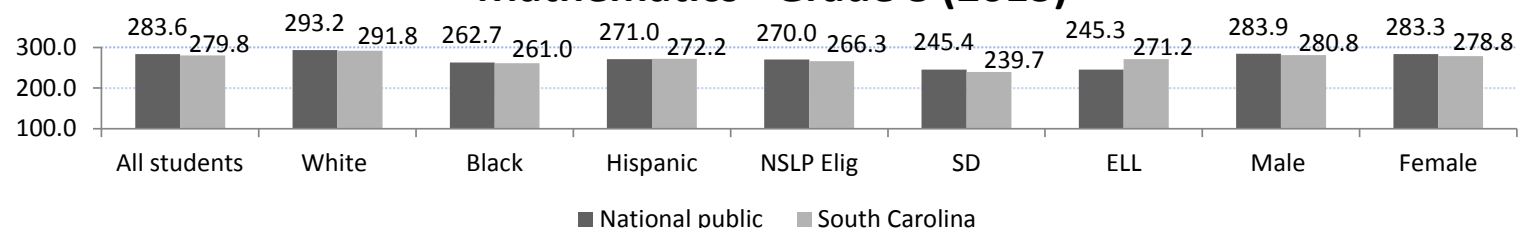
### Mathematics - Grade 4 (2013)



### Reading - Grade 8 (2013)



### Mathematics - Grade 8 (2013)



#### Key

NSLP National school lunch program

SD Student with disabilities

ELL English language learner

NAEP National Association of Education Progress

	SD Participation Rate	ELL Participation Rate
Reading, Grade 4	89.0%	96.0%
Reading, Grade 8	85.0%	96.0%
Mathematics, Grade 4	93.0%	99.0%
Mathematics, Grade 8	90.0%	95.0%

#### Our School

Number of recently arrived ELL students exempted from ELA in state assessments

0

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I/S-Insufficient Sample